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EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

Wild hogs have become quite common in Coffee County. While some of them are actually imported feral hogs, the real thoughtful hunters, who aren't concerned with anything but their personal pleasure, most are domestic hogs which have strayed from a farmer's field and gone wild (or are the offspring of such a hog). A number of hunters have become very good at tracking down these awfully smart animals. A picture on the sports page this week shows two adult hogs which will not be destroying any more farm crops or pine seedlings. These hunters have endeared themselves with more than one land owner. The hogs seem to thrive in the Pea River swamps and farmers along the river have anything but kind words for the destructive rooters.

The national political news on Tuesday of this week was the Iowa Democratic caucus of Monday. There Senator John Kerry upset the dreams of several candidates, as well as the predictions of several pollsters, when he won the support of 38% of those voting in the traditional event. Equally upstaging to other candidates and the predictors was Senator John Edwards' second place finish with about 33%. The North Carolina senator was predicted to be near the bottom of the pile just a week ago. We wondered if something might be amiss with the predictions when undisputed front runner Howard Dean of Vermont suddenly changed tactics and pulled his growing ads from the tube during the last few days of the campaign. Sure enough he was beginning to get the message as voters actually put him down in a low, low third place. Also, while nothing is official at this writing, most experts (and us as well) predict that Dick Gephardt, the fourth place finisher in Iowa, will drop completely out of the race for the right to meet head-to-head with Republican President George W. Bush. Now, the battle, charges and counter charges, all move to the New Hampshire primary set for next week. However if things don't warm up a bit in New England, many voters might throw up their hands and stay by the home fires.

The job picture should be pretty good in this area. Most local businesses and industries are prospering and with the new and expanding industries hiring... times are getting even better. Toledo Molding folks are about to crank off actual production work in their new Elba plant. Company officials said Tuesday they are continuing to interview and hire production workers. The big distribution center at Brundidge is planning to put a bunch of folks to work. Also, we are publishing an ad this week for workers at the new Hyundai supplier in Luverne. It would be overly harsh to say you can get a job if you really want it, but things do appear to be looking up on the local job front.

Grandparents listen up. We read a lot of funny sayings recently and it said that grandchildren are the reward parents get for not killing their own worrisome children during their teen years. We understand the frustrations of parents trying to raise their children "right" but also cherish the longtime memories that accompany that project. Probably the most amazing part of parenting is that years are spent urging children to think for themselves, and then parents, anguish over the fact the offspring actually do ponder the facts rather than just doing things the same way the parents would do it.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Jan. 12, 2004, investigated the following incidents: four for domestic violence, two for harassment, two for theft of property, one rape, two for criminal mischief, one possession of a controlled substance, one possession of drug paraphernalia, one domestic dispute, one burglary, one missing person and one attempted suicide.

The following arrests were made: two for theft of property, one for domestic violence, one for failure to pay, one for rape, one for possession of a controlled substance, one for possession of drug paraphernalia and one for failure to appear.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: **MONDAY, JAN. 12** - River stage - 6:02 feet (6:04 a.m.); Disturbance reported at the police department (8:38 p.m.); Disturbance reported at Beaver Dam Apartments (9:10 p.m.).

CALL CRIMESTOPPERS @ 897-3881 TO REPORT A CRIME. REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

The Elba Clipper

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

LEVEE

Like the slurry wall installed in the newly renovated levee, Martin said the workers dug a "core" in the first levee and filled it with clay to make the levee's base stronger.

In contrast to the new trench, which is 35-40 feet deep, any first trench was about three feet wide and four feet deep and was dug using shovels and picks.

"They worked for 50 cents a day," Shortie said. "You try to get somebody to dig with a pick and a shovel down there all day long for 50 cents now. They'd tell you to go jump in that river down there."

Though the building tools and methods were different in the 30s, levee rehabilitation project manager Gene Oden said the original levee was "very well constructed" and made digging the 40-foot slurry wall difficult.

"It was very well-built," he said. "That's kind of surprising since it was built shortly after the 1929 flood."

The Martins said for the first levee, a gate structure was constructed to go over Whitewater Creek to Smith Avenue. Similar gates were installed at the Pea River bridge on U.S. 84, Kingston Highway, Caroline Street and where the former railroad tracks cut through the levee.

They said timbers were cut to fit the slots in the gate to keep water out, and sandbags piled against these.

The levee rehabilitation uncovered a set of three very structures at the old railroad pass a few weeks ago while digging the slurry wall trench.

"They were massive, unbelievable," said Oden. "What was unbelievable is that nobody remembered they were there. They weren't on the drawings. The government (Army Corp. of Engineers) didn't know that they were there. Nobody told anybody. The mayor didn't even know they were there."

They had been filled in around some time after the railroad tracks were removed (probably in the early 80s) and present city officials were not aware that the concrete was still under all that dirt.

Oden said uncovering, demolishing and hauling the 25-foot-tall structures away took about four weeks to complete.

To keep as much of the trench intact as they could, Oden said his workers brought in 45-foot metal sheet piling and drove them in with a hairpin crane to prevent the slurry from leaking. Back then, "I guess it was cheaper to just fill this with concrete to (remove them)," Oden said.

According to the Martins,

money was indeed scarce during the original construction, but many people in need of jobs were hired by the government to build it.

People came to Elba from all over the surrounding area when they found out jobs were available, the Martins said.

"A job was a job," Shortie said. "Even if it was nothing but a dollar a day, it beat nothing. It was either that or nothing a day."

Olive Ray said that back then, men from all over the country left home to travel, trying to locate jobs so they could make money for their families.

"There was no keeping up with the Joneses," she said, "because the Joneses didn't have anything either."

The Martins said before the original levee was built, children would get several days' vacation from school each spring because the river rose and washed away the wooden bridge that stretched across the water before the "crooked river bridge" was built.

Shortie said the wooden bridge was built low and straight, "just a homemade bridge like they made out in the country."

For a short time, a swinging rope bridge hung over the water in place of the wooden one, Olive Ray said.

She said finally, a higher, metal bridge was built there. The end of the bridge started a little further down and curved, thus inspiring its nickname "the crooked bridge."

During these spring vacation times, the Martins said riding around the square on boats proved entertaining, and most people weren't nervous about the water's rising because houses were built higher and not on cement foundations as they are now.

Olive Ray said she worried about the water level, however.



REMOVAL OF THE CONCRETE GATE STRUCTURE where the old railroad tracks once existed proved to be quite a task as it measured in at 25-feet tall. It took approximately four weeks to uncover, demolish and haul the structure. An interesting note is that no one realized it was there until workers uncovered it.

She said on rainy nights, she slept with one arm hanging off her bed in case the water got inside her house, she could feel it on her fingers.

One of the biggest tales about the 1929 flood was of a boy who was on the Pea River bridge when it washed away.

As the story goes, the boy rode the bridge all the way down to the railroad tracks, where he was rescued.

"He was out there where he shouldn't have been," Olive Ray said.

"He was one of those adventurous kinds," Shortie laughed. Elba residents felt safe for 61 years after the '29 flood until the next one hit in 1990, Olive Ray said.

She said because she lived through the floods, she is able to sympathize with people from other parts of the world whose lives are upset because of flooding.

"That was a trying time in our lives," Shortie said. "It was an experience that most folks won't ever have."

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Obituaries

IONE BLANTON WISE LUTON

Mrs. Ione Blanton Wise Luton, age 90, died Jan. 13, 2004, at Medical Center Enterprise.

Funeral services were held Jan. 16, 2004 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Larry Doster and Rev. Donnie Marler officiating. Burial followed in the Victoria Baptist Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Ms. Luton was born March 13, 1913 to the late John Thomas and Verno Martin Blanton. She attended Troy State University where she earned a Bachelor's degree in education. She was a member of the Coffee County Retired Teachers Association, Delta Kappa Gamma Teaching Society and the Victoria Baptist Church.

Ms. Luton was preceded in death by her husband, Casey Wise and James D. Luton, one sister, Verno Ruth Wagner, and three brothers, Harold Blanton, James Ewell Blanton and Edwin Blanton.

Survivors include nieces and nephews: Shirley (Roger) Goodson, New Brockton, AL; Jerome (Randy) Blanton, Phenix City, AL; Rance (Jo) Blanton, Lawrenceville, GA; Susan (Roger) Allen, Salem, AL; Camellia Hayes, Southport, FL; a sister-in-law, Ruthia Blanton, Jacksonville, FL; several great-nieces and nephews and one very special great-great-niece, Macy Anne McIntosh, New Brockton.

Church of Christ Cemetery with Dillard Funeral Home of Brundidge directing.

Mrs. Dickey was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Lee Dickey, her parents, Archie Paul and Cora Downing; daughters, Earleen Johnson, Kathleen Dickey and an infant son, sister, Bannie Mae Hartzog; brothers, Lloyd, Warren, Morris and Marvin Downing and a brother dying within a few hours of her, Jack Downing.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Annie Merle and Sam Chalker, Dothan, two sons and daughters-in-law, E.L. (Buck) and Marie Dickey, New Hope, Huey and Rebecca Dickey, Brundidge; two brothers, Palmer Downing and Martin Downing, both of Rocky Head; 13 grandchildren, 20 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Ms. Luton was preceded in death by her husband, Casey Wise and James D. Luton, one sister, Verno Ruth Wagner, and three brothers, Harold Blanton, James Ewell Blanton and Edwin Blanton.

Survivors include nieces and nephews: Shirley (Roger) Goodson, New Brockton, AL; Jerome (Randy) Blanton, Phenix City, AL; Rance (Jo) Blanton, Lawrenceville, GA; Susan (Roger) Allen, Salem, AL; Camellia Hayes, Southport, FL; a sister-in-law, Ruthia Blanton, Jacksonville, FL; several great-nieces and nephews and one very special great-great-niece, Macy Anne McIntosh, New Brockton.

CARD OF
THANKS

The Parent Committee for the children of the Elba Head Start would like to thank everyone who has supported their activities this school year. Your generosity is very much appreciated and makes a difference to the children in your community.

Mary Lou Smith
President Elba Head Start
Parenting Committee

1/22pd.

Park in Troy

Mr. Lambert was preceded in death by Will and Beatrice Lambert, Moe Soykin, Fox Lambert, Bud Lambert and Wayne Lambert.

Survivors include his wife, Gail Lambert, Troy; two daughters, Sheri (Fred) Watkins, Troy; Renee (Phil) Shelley, Bufaula; four sisters: Willie (Bill) Crocker, Asheville, N.C.; Dean Hughes, St. Louis, Nancy (Ron) Lorraine, St. Louis, Judy (Johnny) Bourwell, Jack; and four grandchildren.

JOYCE CONNER YOUNG
Mrs. Joyce Conner Young, age 73, died Jan. 20, 2004 at the home of her daughter.

Funeral services will be conducted Friday, Jan. 23, from the New Life Church in Crawfordville, Fla. at 2:00 p.m. with Harvey Young Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include her husband, Texal L. Young; two

sons, Doug and Blair; a daughter, Pam McKenzie; two brothers, James and Jack Conner; one sister, Shirley Dukes; 10 grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

VERA MAE ALLEN
Mrs. Vera Mae Allen, age 89, died Jan. 10, 2004.

Funeral services were held Jan. 16, 2004 at Cornerstone Church in Opp with Rev. V.J. Coleman officiating. The burial followed at Hardin Street Cemetery in Opp with Coleman Funeral Home directing.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Ozzie Allen, two children, J.C. Allen and William Allen.

Survivors include five children: Mike Allen, Porter (Sharon Smith), Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.; Grady Allen, Porter, Los Angeles, Calif.; Brinda Allen, Sheridan, (Leslie), Enterprise, Ala.; Linda Allen

Hardwick (Kenneth), Acworth, Ga.; Eva Allen Russell, Opp, Ala.; 11 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

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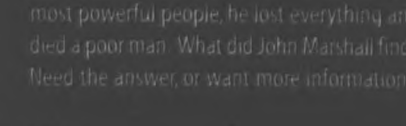
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THIS WEEK!

On January 14, 1846 James H. Murray was building a sawmill on property owned by James, Walter in California. At the bottom a stream, he found a small rock. His discovery led to thousands of people flooding into the area. Shatter the land's owner saw his crops and livestock destroyed. One of California's most powerful people, he lost everything and died a poor man. What did John Marshall find? Need the answer or want more information?

Go to
<http://www.afmusem.com/hist2/gold.html>

Alabama
FAST FACT

It was May 20, 1916, Shackleton was Sir Ernest Shackleton, the legendary British explorer. Nearly eighteen months earlier, he had sailed from the island as leader of a twenty-eight-man expedition that planned to march across Antarctica. Their ship never reached land.

Shortly after departing on December 5, 1914 their ship, the

An Incredible
JOURNEY

With no hope of rescuers ever finding them, they could either become their own rescuers, or die.

Endurance encountered heavy pack ice. For weeks, they battled their way through it, getting ever closer to the Antarctic shore. By January 18, 1915, they were within a day of reaching land. It was the closest they would get, as the ice closed tightly around the ship.

For ten months, the ice held the Endurance in its vice-like grip. In mid-October, the ship's timbers began buckling from the pressure. Shackleton ordered his men to abandon ship and set up camp on the pack ice. On October 27 they watched as their ship, crushed like a swatted mosquito, slipped under the ice.

Now Shackleton faced a new challenge. Could he return all of his men safely to England? With no hope of rescuers ever finding them, they could either become their own rescuers, or die. They chose not to die.

After living on the ice for nearly six months, they drifted within a hundred and fifty miles of tiny, desolate Elephant Island. Out of options, they launched the Endurance's

lifeboats and, on April 9, began rowing towards the island. Battling fierce waves, the twenty-eight men reached land 497 days after leaving South Georgia. Still, no one would ever find them.

Shackleton decided he had to try to reach South Georgia, eight hundred miles away. With five other men, he set sail in a tiny lifeboat named the James Caird. It was April 24, 1915. James Woyse, the captain of the Endurance, was their navigator. During the voyage, the fierce weather slowed him to take only two sightings. Nevertheless, on May 9 they landed on South Georgia's west coast, but people only lived on its east coast.

Bad weather made it impossible to sail further, so Shackleton and two companions hiked twenty-two miles across the

island's mountains and glaciers to reach Stromness. It would take four and a half months before a rescue ship could break through the ice to reach Elephant Island. When they arrived, all twenty-two men were alive. Learn more about this amazing adventure by taking The Web Journey.

Next Week:
Germany gets a new Chancellor - Adolf Hitler

South: The Story of Shackleton's Last Expedition 1914 - 1917

First published in 1913 this is Shackleton's first personal account of the voyage of the Endurance. This volume was the first to be translated for offshore reading is part of the University of Adelaide's Electronic Text collection of the University of Adelaide's Electronic Text collection.

Web Address:
<http://www.americanradioworks.org/features/walking/index.html>

Web Address:
<http://etext.library.adelaide.edu.au/s/52/s/>

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CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Beth Moore Bible Study available to ladies beginning February 2

A Beth Moore Bible study, Breaking Free, will be available to ladies in this area starting in February. A night study starting Monday, Feb. 2 and an afternoon study starting on Wednesday, Feb. 4. This will be a 10 week study. This study is sponsored locally by Westside Baptist Church for more information call 897-1288.

Benefit gospel singing planned at Faith Hill Assembly of God Church January 24

A benefit gospel singing will be held on January 24, 2004 at 7 p.m. at Faith Hill Assembly of God in Rutledge, Ala. Featured groups will be the Lighthouse Gospel Singers of Troy and the Burning Bush Family of Red Level. For more information or directions call 897-3030.

Taylor Hill Community Baptist Church to host gospel singing January 24

Taylor Hill Community Baptist Church is holding a gospel singing on Saturday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. The featured group will be the E.O.C.C. offering Personal Computer Use Made Easy-III class.

Enterprise-Ozark Community College's Personal Computer Use Made Easy—Level III, offers an opportunity for participants to improve computer usage proficiency and to gain experience using Microsoft Works software. Successful completion of Personal Computer Use Made Easy—

Level II is recommended but not required. A 3 1/2" diatete is required for the first class. There is a \$40.00 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is February 17. Class meets Mondays and Tuesdays, Feb. 23-March 2, 6:00-8:00 p.m. For more information call 347-2623, ext. 2234.

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A Capella Singing

Friday, January 30
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Hosted by the
Elba Church of Christ
715 North Troy Highway
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Everyone is Welcome!

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

Scripture: Hebrews 1:1-9

***Thinking of you, praying for you: M.C. Lawrence, Lena Sims, The Jessie and Allen Families, The Bailey Family, Noah Reynolds, Jr., Rev. Henry Ewing, Jr., Lizzie Tyson, Lela Tyson, Chase Graham, Rev. E. Magwood, Mattie Belcher, Donald McBride, Johnnie R. Belcher, Ann Henderson Jones, Lovie Hooks, Henry Waters, Catherine Waters, Dorothy Daniels and Ricardo Cook

***January Birthdays
Harold Lee, Jr. - January 12
La Tanya Tyson - January 12
Effie Lavon Rudeaux - January 12

Mary Coleman - January 13
Bobby Guiley - January 13
Tameika Tillis - January 13
Helen Phillips - January 14
Carolyn Lawrence - January 14
Antonia Hill - January 15
Glennette Hall - January 16
Cestella Lawrence - January 17
Brittany Daniels - January 17
Steve Williams - January 22

***Bethel Friendship Church of Orion, Ala. will hold a Building Fund Rally on Jan. 25, 2004 at 3:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Sam Green. All soloist, churches, singing groups and choirs are invited.

God's Amazing Grace Is with us in all our pain. Thank God for His presence. In His peace we will remain. Let our lives count for something. God's love takes us as we are. So make yourselves available to Him. We'll have peace forever more. Beneath all our trials and tribulations. Composed by: Eria Lindsey Belcher

Today is a good day, be grateful!

South Alabama A.M.E. Church Center, Inc. to hold general membership meeting Saturday, January 24

The South Alabama Conference - A.M.E. Church Center, Inc. will hold a general membership meeting on Saturday, January 24 at 1:00 p.m. at St. Phillips A.M.E. Church in Madrid. Pastor Irene Peterson will host this meeting immediately following the Dothan-Eufaula, District's Founder's Day Celebration Center President, James M. Roberts of Dothan, invites all members of A.M.E. Churches in the South Alabama Conference to attend this meeting to discuss progress on the building of a Conference Headquarters building.

A gala benefit banquet is planned for Saturday, Feb. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Quality Inn in

Dothan. Attire is formal or semi-formal. Tickets may be obtained for a set donation and are available from Presiding Elders, pastors, and leaders of the Lay Organization and Women's Missionary Society. All ticket proceeds must be turned in by Saturday, January 24. Members and friends of the Conference may make donations at any time by mailing checks to Bernella Knight, Treasurer, P.O. Box 628, Tuskegee, AL 36087. Checks should be made payable to South Alabama Conference A.M.E. Church Center, Inc. For more information, please contact Roberts at 792-8249 or Marge Simmons, Center Secretary, at 393-3827.

Decatur Master's Commission to be in New Brockton January 30

Decatur Master's Commission will be in New Brockton at the Coffee County Farm Center on January 30 and 31 at 7:00 p.m. For more information call Holloway

Tabernacle Assembly of God (334)347-3591, Pat Henderson (334)684-2542, Wooten Chapel Assembly of God - (334)894-2113, or Trey Medley (334)894-0082.

Elba Church of Christ to host A Capella Singing

The Elba Church of Christ will host an A-Capella Singing on Friday, Jan. 30, from 7-8 p.m. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information contact Tim Gannells at 897-2057.

Enterprise-Ozark Community College announces Fall Semester Honor Rolls

Enterprise-Ozark Community College (EOCC) officially announces the names of students achieving recognition through the fall semester honor rolls.

Nine EOCC students earned Dean's Academic Honor Roll certificates at the end of this semester. These students, 46 or more semester hours while maintaining a cumulative 4.0 grade-point-average.

Dean's Academic Honor Roll honorees included Patrick S. Nelson, of Kinston; Ninety EOCC students earned President's List certificates. These students maintained a 4.00 grade-point-average during the fall semester with a course load of at least 12 semester hours.

President's List honorees include James L. Clay, Katherine A. Grantham, and Casey Skinner from Elba plus Patrick S. Nelson and Tara L. Williams, of Kinston.

Coffee County Schools Menu January 26-30, 2004

BREAKFAST
Monday - Not Available
Tuesday - Not Available
Wednesday - Not Available
Thursday - Not Available
Friday - Not Available

LUNCH
Monday - Vegetable Beef Soup, Half PJ Sandwich, Ham & Cheese Sandwich, Fried Squash, Hashbrowns, Crackers, Fruit, Milk
Tuesday - Sausage Pizza, Fish Sandwich, Green Salad, Corn on Cob, Fruit, Milk
Wednesday - Chili w/ Meat and Beans, Hot Dog, Baked Potato, Cole Slaw, Crackers, Fruit, Milk
Thursday - Fried Chicken, Burrito, Potato Salad, Butter Beans, Rolls, Fruit, Milk
Friday - Cheese Burger, Corn Dog, French Fries, Baked Beans, Fruit, Milk

ATTEND A CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.

BANIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Sam Taylor, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Elder Phillip-Copes, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Darryl Caldwell, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
Tom Sena, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.

CHERRY CREEK METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Marsha Baster
Church Service - 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays - 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays - 6:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
E. H. Hill, Minister
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 12:00 noon
1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays - 11:00 a.m.

DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Ron V. McLean
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.

DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor: Don Grantham
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 5:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting - Wed. - 7:00 p.m.

ELBA BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor: Rev. Roy Davis
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.

ELBA 1st BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor: Rev. Roger Miller
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

ELBA 2nd BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor: Rev. Roger Miller
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.

FATH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Ralph Medley Jr., Pastor
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Decatur Master's Commission to be in New Brockton January 30

Decatur Master's Commission will be in New Brockton at the Coffee County Farm Center on January 30 and 31 at 7:00 p.m. For more information call Holloway

Elba Church of Christ to host A Capella Singing

The Elba Church of Christ will host an A-Capella Singing on Friday, Jan. 30, from 7-8 p.m. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information contact Tim Gannells at 897-2057.

Enterprise-Ozark Community College releases Fall Semester honor rolls

Enterprise-Ozark Community College (EOCC) officially announces the names of students achieving recognition through the fall semester honor rolls.

Nine EOCC students earned Dean's Academic Honor Roll certificates at the end of this semester. These students, 46 or more semester hours while maintaining a cumulative 4.0 grade-point-average.

Dean's Academic Honor Roll honorees included Patrick S. Nelson, of Kinston; Ninety EOCC students earned President's List certificates. These students maintained a 4.00 grade-point-average during the fall semester with a course load of at least 12 semester hours.

President's List honorees include James L. Clay, Katherine A. Grantham, and Casey Skinner from Elba plus Patrick S. Nelson and Tara L. Williams, of Kinston.

ATTEND A CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.

BANIN BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Sam Taylor, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 6:30 p.m.

BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Elder Phillip-Copes, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH
Darryl Caldwell, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH
Tom Sena, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 6:30 p.m.

BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH
Robert Davis, Pastor
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service - 6:00 p.m.

CHERRY CREEK METHODIST CHURCH
Rev. Marsha Baster
Church Service - 9:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays - 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.
1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays - 10:00 a.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays - 6:30 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST
E. H. Hill, Minister
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 12:00 noon
1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Sundays - 11:00 a.m.

DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Ron V. McLean
Sunday School - 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Prayer Service - 7:00 p.m.

DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH
Pastor: Don Grantham
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship - 11:00 a.m.
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Prayer Meeting - Wed. - 7:00 p.m.

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LBW Fall semester honor students announced

LBW Community College President Edward Meadows has announced academic honor students for the 2003 Fall Semester. A total of 61 students were named to the Dean's List. To qualify for these distinctions students must be enrolled on a full-time basis and post a 3.50-3.99 grade point average to qualify for the Dean's List, and a 4.0 (A) grade point average to qualify for the President's List. Local students named to the Dean's List are Margie R. Adkinson, Lynne L. Driscoll, Melissa Flowers, Kathy Sue Glynn, Jamie Lee Johnson and Samantha Williams, all of Elba; Robert, Lyle Kimble and Candace L. Moulton of Kinston; and Susie N. Snuckey of New Brockton.

College Students should fill out and file FAFSA form

A new year brings new opportunities, and one opportunity college-bound students need to take advantage of is filling the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, most often called the FAFSA. Students should always file the FAFSA even if they don't expect to need or receive student aid.

The FAFSA is the form students fill out to see if they qualify not only for federal grants and loans but also for many state and college student aid programs. Both students and their parents have to provide the information for the FAFSA, unless the student is independent under federal guidelines.

Basically, to be considered independent for the 2004-2005 school year, a student has to be one or more of the following: at least 24 years old, married, a veteran, a parent, or a graduate student.

The FAFSA asks for information about 2003 income, assets, and expenses. The information is plugged into a formula set by Congress to determine how much federal and state aid the student is eligible for.

The quickest, easiest way to fill out the FAFSA is online at www.fafsa.ed.gov. People who submit the FAFSA online usually get a response seven to 14 days faster than people who submit a paper FAFSA.

For more information about student financial aid and college planning, visit www.alstudentaid.com; write the Alabama Student Loan Program, 110 North Union Street, Suite 308, Montgomery, AL 36104-3761; or call 334-265-9720, toll free (800)721-9720.

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• China • Flatware
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Clyde L. Sadle

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I LIE ON THE COUCH AND WATCH.

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Remember Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Junk!!

And I'm Not Happy About Our Trade Unless & Until You Are !!!!

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LIFESTYLES

Elba AARP installs officers for 2004

Members of the Elba AARP Chapter in Enterprise in Dec. for their monthly meeting and installation of new officers. They are: Nell Gilmer, president; Syble Hahn, Vice-Pres.; Nadine Fuller, Secretary; and June Hamm, Treasurer.

SCHOOLS



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Brittany Cooper
& Christy Eubanks

Students attend Automotive Career Day/International Auto Show event

by Meredith English

On Friday, Nov. 14, the Career/Technical students had the opportunity to attend the Automotive Career Day/International Auto Show in Birmingham.

All of the students, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Carney, Mr. Lawford and Mr. Goodson met at the high school and departed at 6:15 a.m. to leave Elba on a charter bus, only to arrive in Birmingham at 9:45 a.m.

Around 10 a.m., the group listened to a seminar given on the automobile industry. The speakers provided the group with

information about the many different jobs available in the particular industry: automobile technicians, parts specialists, car sales persons, bookkeepers, finance managers and service writers.

After the seminar, the students were admitted to the International Auto Show, where they could view many different new automobiles and concept vehicles from different manufacturers.

The group had lunch at the convention center and then left Birmingham around 2 p.m. They arrived back in Elba around 5 p.m.

EHS students named to district and all-state honor bands

by Meredith English

On Monday, Jan. 12, the entire student body was informed of a few very special band members within our school.

Lauren McClung, Elizabeth Weeks, Casey Medlock and Jared Brooks were all selected to play in the District Honor Band.

According to one hand mem-

ber, it singles out who is the best of the best.

Even better Lauren McClung, Elizabeth Weeks, Casey Medlock and Jared Brooks were named to play in the Alabama All-State Band.

Congratulations to all of you, and special congratulations to Lauren McClung for being named the top flutist player in the district.

Keep it UP!



Elba students named to the District Honor Band were (front) Elizabeth Weeks and Casey Medlock; (back) Jared Brooks, Lauren McClung and Jessica Merklin.



Elba students named to the Alabama All-State Band included (front) Elizabeth Weeks and Casey Medlock; (back) Jared Brooks and Lauren McClung.

EHS students take part in Lemonade Series Writing Scholarship contest

The students at Elba High School were given the chance to win a scholarship. The scholarship is known as the Lemonade Series Writing Scholarship.

To win the scholarship, the students had to write an essay on someone who positively inspired them to change their life.

The winning essay will be published in the upcoming book "Living with Love, Laughter & Lemonade." The winning essayist will receive a \$500.00 scholarship.

99 of the next best articles will also be published in the book.

The contest was open to all high school students in grades nine through twelve, so, needless to say, a lot of essays were turned in.

Here are just a few of the many great essays submitted by Elba High School students.

Who I Most Admire by Sydney Brunson

When people are asked whom they most admire, many choose someone who is larger than life. This person could be a leader of a country, a military figure, or a celebrity. My choice is different. The person I admire most is none of these things. He is someone who makes ordinary life seem extraordinary. He is my sixteen-year-old cousin and he is autistic.

When I was young I didn't know what autism was. All I knew was that James was different. He was always moving. He couldn't stand to stay still for too long. The only time I ever saw him still was when he was watching a game show. My mom says that autistic people have abilities that normal people don't. James is blessed with the best memory of anyone I know. James can tell you what year "Hollywood Squares" first aired. If you told James your birthday once he would remember it forever. Even though James was different I learned to love an understand him.

James is the kind of person who shines with positivity. He always seems to be happy and having a good time even if he is having a bad time by himself. James was different I learned to love an understand him.

James is the kind of person who shines with positivity. He always seems to be happy and having a good time even if he is having a bad time by himself. James was different I learned to love an understand him.

laughter. I, on the other hand, am the kind of person who worries. I worry about school, my future and most of all, how others perceive me. But when I see James, I remember a very important lesson. It's not how others see you, it's how you see yourself. I remember a day when I was at school with James. It was the end of the day and some boys approached him. They began to taunt and laugh at James. I was frozen and watched horrified as the boys bullied my cousin. The boys left and I asked James if he was alright. He replied, "Yeah Syd, just laughing with my buds." Just then I saw him with a puzzled expression.

You see, James can't conceive the thought of anyone being cruel. James believes that everyone is his friend and he loves everyone he meets. When James saw the boys he saw them playing with him, not ending him. James has a never-ending faith in the goodwill of men. I often wish that I had a heart as big as James's. I wish that I too saw only the good in people.

James's faith is the biggest inspiration to me. There has never been a time in church when James hasn't offered to pray. James prays for the simple things like, finding his wallet, to the most important, like a sick loved one. James believes in a simple truth, that God loves and hears us. I think that through the business of church we forget how thankful I am. Along with my mom, he assured us that we would not have to pass any more days with hunger.

As the years went by we moved in with Jose. My mom now started to work for important companies after she got her GED and her college degree. She worked for a company in Dothan that helped Hispanics who were going through tough times. She got a new job with the Human Resources Center Department. With her new job she has recently eaten dinner at the Governor's house and has met many legislators and representatives. She also runs and broadcasts a radio station program in Spanish every Saturday night. She also manages a club, which has been a dream for her for the past 3 years.

My mom tells me that one day she hopes to become a senator or governor of Alabama. I believe her, since she's gone from a high school dropout to one of the most important Hispanics in the state. She has shown me that your destiny, although it might be headed one way, can suddenly change and go another. I will always remember her motto, "you can do anything, so long as you put your mind to it." She's been right. It's gotten her this far and will continue taking her further as her dreams become reality.

My grandma, MaryAnn Hagler, is not only an essential

part of my life, but she has inspired me through her teachings and ways of dealing with everyday problems. Her triumph and outlook on life is enough to inspire anyone. Whenever I am sad or depressed she always makes me smile. Whether it is boy problems, friend problems, or family problems, she is always there to console me with her grace and beautiful words. She is an amazing woman with a huge heart. There is nothing you could say or do that offends or in any way makes her upset or mad. She allows life to pass by without letting the little things bother her. My grandma has influenced me to reach my educational goals and five life to the fullest.

After graduation my grandma did not attend college. She immediately started working. Though she has recently lost her job, she has chosen to attend Enterprise Ozark community College and finish her schooling. It takes a lot of courage for a 63-year-old woman to attend a junior college consisting mostly of young adults. Although home work, speeches, and finals all seem new to someone who has not been in school for 45 years, she is managing herself well and making good grades! Her outlook on college has encouraged me to make the most out of my college life. She has influenced me to reach my goals no matter how difficult the task.

My grandma lives life to the fullest every day. She works really hard at the tasks that face her. Grandma does not care what other people think about her sense of style or way of living. She inspires others around her by revealing her positive attitude. Her positive attitude makes the old as well as the young people around her feel like they can do anything if she can. When you look at my grandma you might think that she is a feeble old woman, but truly she is energetic and outgoing. My grandma has never been sick or hospitalized. My grandma's "live life to the fullest" attitude has inspired me to take chances and never give up on life.

The entry fee of \$30 should be made payable to Elba Masonic Lodge #170, and must be received no later than Feb. 13. Entry fees and forms should be mailed to Harry Young, 2721 Marilyn Street, Elba, AL 36323 or Elba Masonic Lodge #170, 340 Larkins Road, Elba, AL 36323.

An optional category will be the photographic competition. The scores will not count toward the overall score. The cost is \$10 each with a 5x7 photo being turned in by 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 14. The photo can be in color or black and white, and judging will be at 5 p.m. Please do not mail the photo. The winner in each age division will receive a trophy and banner. There will be no runner ups. Please put name on back of the photo which will be

returned after the pageant. For more information, call Starla Amison at 897-8301 (after 4 p.m.), Herb Waters at 897-3095, Scott Cole at 897-5898 or Ray Kyle at 897-5851. No concessions will be offered during the event.

The Elba Masonic Lodge #170 is sponsoring the event with all proceeds being used to finance numerous Lodge charities and projects.

Age divisions will include 0-11 months, 1-2 years, 3-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-11 years, 12-14 years and 15-18 years. Pageant age will be based upon the age of the contestant prior to Feb. 1, 2004.

A winner and two alternates will be selected in each age division (based on minimum of five contestants) with the winners receiving a trophy, crown, banner, flowers and a \$100 savings bond. The two alternates will receive a trophy and flower. All contestants will receive a trophy in all age divisions.

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SPORTS

Views from....

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melanie will turn fifteen in a couple of weeks and has already begun to study her driver's manual in preparation for taking her written test to get a learner's permit. Even though I have refused to let her behind the wheel until she gets her permit, I will have no problem riding next to her and helping teach her how to drive once she gets the piece of paper that makes it all legal. The problem will come when she fusses about driving the family van, and big sister fusses about letting her drive her car. I am confident I can solve that problem, too, but will wait until the time comes.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** Elba High School is once again hunting for a head football coach after last week's announcement that Coach Mike Waters had turned in his resignation. Coach Waters came to Elba six years ago as an assistant for head coach David Sikes, served for one year as an assistant for Julius Head, and then was promoted to the head coaching position after Head's resignation. Elba had posted a 1-9 record in Head's only season as head coach, but with Waters in charge the Tigers posted a 7-5 record the very next season and advanced to the second round of the state playoffs. The last two seasons Elba struggled to an overall record of 8-12, and in 2003 the Tigers managed to win only three games and finished the season near the bottom of the region standings. While there was little doubt there was much work to do in the Elba program, there was no doubt that Coach Waters was willing to work to help the program move forward. Apparently Coach Waters felt the best thing for the program was to let a new coach come in and lead Elba as it makes the move into the 2A ranks. Coach Waters gave six years of his life to helping make the Elba Tigers the best they could be, and is to be thanked for his devotion to the football team, and the overall athletic program.

*** The Elba Tigers won one and lost one last week in basketball action to move their record to 10-7 on the season. The Tigers struggled on Tuesday night before rallying to get past pesky New Brockton, then saw a late rally fall short Friday night in a tough road loss to Luverne. With three weeks left in the regular season it is time for the Tigers to begin to jell on both offense and defense and to start playing well on both ends of the court every time they take the court. When the Tigers hold their opponents to less than sixty points they should win the game, but that has not been the case as the offense still seems reluctant to take open shots and the lack of scoring punch keeps the games close until the final buzzer. There is no doubt Elba can play defense and has the quickness to cause problems for any opponent it may face. However, until the Tigers gain some consistency on the offensive end they will have to scratch and claw to win, no matter who they play.

*** The Elba Lady Tigers picked up two road wins last week to move to 8-6 on the season and it looks like the Elba girls are beginning to come together at just the right time. The Lady Tigers got off to a slow start and were given up for dead by many fans, but the girls have never quit working and are now playing very well every time they hit the court. This bunch of girls may not have a super star to rely on, but they do play well as a team and my guess is they still have a few more surprises up their sleeves.

*** The hottest team in the area has to be the Kinston Bulldogs. Coach Gary Glass and his troops have won six straight games to move atop the area standings and unless they collapse down the stretch seem on course to claim their first area title in years. The Bulldogs struggled early in the season and owned a 2-8 record heading out of the holiday break, but have come out playing like champions in the new year and have the tools to keep on winning as the season heads down the home stretch. Kinston has a true force inside in 6-5 Jeremy Driver and two solid three-point shooters in J.T. Wiggins and Ramsey Phillips, and last week against Zion Chapel scored inside when the Rebels played man-to-man and then burned the nets from behind the arc when Rebels backed up in a zone. With offensive weapons like that, the Bulldogs might very well be the team to beat when the area tournament tips off in a couple of weeks.

*** New Brockton's Gamecocks ruled the roost for years in basketball and would play one of the toughest schedules in the state to prove just how good they were. Those fortunes have changed over at New Brockton, however, as the Gamecocks saw their record slip to 2-15 last week with losses to Elba and G.W. Long. I have seen the Gamecocks play and will say without a doubt that they are much better than their record may make one think. New Brockton has pretty good size and a couple of very athletic players, but just can't seem to get a break and post a win that could help turn things around. Their record will mean nothing when the area tournament tips off in a couple of weeks, and despite the record, my guess is that the Gamecocks will be a dangerous team in the tournament. Remember, you read it here.

*** Auburn's recruiting season got a much needed shot in the arm last week when Carnell Williams and Ronnie Brown both announced they would stay in school for their senior season. The Tigers had been struggling along the recruiting trail since the end of the season and many Auburn fans believed that if Williams and Brown both turned pro next year's Tigers would be as easy to trash as the Tiger on the cereal box. Now that the duo have announced they would return things should pick up and Auburn should be able to close the recruiting season with a bang.

*** I have enjoyed reading about the \$60 million lawsuit filed by former Alabama coaches Ronnie Cottrell and Ivy Williams against the NCAA, and last week really got interested when a federal judge in Memphis released some paperwork that revealed Tennessee coach Phil Fulmer played a major role in having the Crimson Tide football program placed on probation. The NCAA had fought to keep the paperwork secret in the lawsuit and had successfully prevented anyone from learning the "secret" informants that helped in the case against Alabama. However, the federal case involved many of the same characters and once the paperwork became public last week it became clear that Fulmer was the key witness in the NCAA's case against the Tide. Most observers have said from the start that Cottrell and Williams would get a huge settlement from the NCAA in an attempt to keep the workings of the NCAA out of public view, but that was before last week. While it may be true Cottrell and Williams will soon be millionaires, maybe now the NCAA will finally have to answer some questions of its own and the organization will be forced to make major changes, or be disbanded. I vote for the latter.

*** In closing... Congratulations are in order for Elba basketball coach Karl Bledsoe and his fiancée Melanie Waddell now that their engagement has been made official. I used to kid Coach Bledsoe that the only reason he dressed up for games was to impress the ladies in the stands, and now that he will soon join the ranks of married men I will keep an eye on his wardrobe and see if the black sports coat stays in the closet.

NEED A SOURCE FOR SPORTS?
TELL'EM YOU READ IT IN

THE
PRESSBOX

After three years at helm

Mike Waters resigns as head football coach at Elba High

When the 2004 high school football season kicks off next fall the Elba Tigers will be under the direction of their sixth head coach in the past ten years.

The most recent coaching vacancy occurred last week when Coach Mike Waters resigned after three years at the Elba helm. Waters, who had served for three years as an assistant before being named the head coach in 2001, posted a 15-17 record during his tenure with the Tigers and guided Elba to one trip to the state playoffs.

"I will probably coach again sometime in the future," said Waters, "but I just felt that now was the best time for me to resign here at Elba, and that it was the best thing for me and my family. We have some good kids here and I honestly believe the football program at Elba can be successful."

Elba High principal Johnny Dunn reported that Coach Waters gave no explanation for

his resignation, and stated "Coach Waters didn't give any reasons for the resignation, he just said he thought it was time for a change. He is an excellent teacher, a hard worker and the best weight coach I have ever been around. Coach Waters did many good things for the overall athletic program here at Elba High School and will be missed on the sidelines and as the athletic director."

Waters inherited an Elba team that had struggled to a 1-9 record in 2000 after being named the head coach in the spring of 2001, and immediately turned the Tigers back into winners as he guided Elba to a 7-5 record and a spot in the second round of the state playoffs. The Tiger turnaround earned Waters "Coach of the Year" honors from The Dothan Eagle, and gave Elba football fans hope that the once proud football program was on its way back to dominance in the 3A ranks.

High School
ROUNDBALL
ROUNDUP

Zion Chapel falls in overtime to Bears 57-54

The Zion Chapel Rebels saw an eight-point lead vanish late in the fourth quarter and then watched as the Cottonwood Bears took charge in the extra period to down the Rebels 57-54, last Monday night in Cottonwood. Josh Smith scored 21 points and Austin Smith added 20 to lead the Rebels, while Allen Williams scored 23 points for Cottonwood.

Lady Rebels tripped up in Cottonwood 40-29

The Zion Chapel Lady Rebels traveled to Cottonwood last Monday night and suffered a 40-29 defeat to the Cottonwood Lady Bears. Inessa Wambles scored 14 points to lead Zion Chapel, while Sierra Snell led the Lady Bears with 13 points.

Kinston Bulldogs coast past Zion Chapel 71-46

The Kinston Bulldogs pulled ahead early and never looked back last Tuesday night to coast past the Zion Chapel Rebels 71-46, in Kinston. Jeremy Driver scored 21 points to lead the Bulldogs, while Ramsey Phillips added 15 and Josh Reeves and J.T. Wiggins both scored 10. Josh Smith scored 13 points to lead the Rebels.

Kinston Lady Bulldogs down Lady Rebels 48-22

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs led all the way last Tuesday night to down the Zion Chapel Lady Rebels 48-22, in Kinston. Brittany Hunko scored 15 points to lead Kinston, while Casey Mack added 11 and Ramsi Smith scored 10. Inessa Wambles led Zion Chapel with 7 points.

Brantley Bulldogs blasted by J.E. Shields 71-51

The Brantley Bulldogs saw their recent winning streak snapped last Tuesday night when they were ambushed by the top-ranked J.F. Shields Panthers 71-51, in Beatrice. Devin Person scored 17 points and Josh Daniels added 13 to lead Brantley, while Wesley Jones scored 26 points to lead J.F. Shields.

Kinston Bulldogs rally past Purple Cats 61-47

The Kinston Bulldogs scored 12 straight points to end the third quarter to take command and held on to down the Arton Purple Cats 61-47, Thursday night in Arton. J.T. Wiggins scored 26 points to lead the Bulldogs, while Jeremy Driver added 15. Marquis Ward scored 19 points to lead Arton.

Kinston Lady Bulldogs fall to Arton 53-38

The Kinston Lady Bulldogs suffered their first area loss of the season Thursday night when they fell to the Arton Lady Cats 53-38, in Arton. Brittany Hunko and Casey Mack both scored 8 points to lead Kinston, while Sheryl Lynn Liprot scored 17 points and Starla Baxter added 15 to lead Arton.

Brantley Bulldogs blow past Pleasant Home 75-57

The Brantley Bulldogs got back in the win column Friday night by rolling past the Pleasant Home Eagles 75-57, in Pleasant Home. Kevin Pitts scored 32 points and nailed 10 three-pointers to lead Brantley, while Chris Little led the Eagles with 21 points.

Brantley Lady Bulldogs fall to Lady Eagles 47-35

The Brantley Lady Bulldogs continued their recent struggles on the court Friday night in a 47-35 loss to the Pleasant Home Lady Eagles, in Pleasant Home. Sherry Guiley scored 12 points and Jessica Daniels added 11 to lead Brantley, while Amy Jacobs scored 13 points to lead the Lady Eagles.

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MIKE WATERS

Jr.NBA/Jr.WNBA
YOUTH
BASKETBALL
SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JAN. 22
At Elba High School
5:30 - Lakers vs. Clippers
6:30 - Fever vs. Sting

SATURDAY, JAN. 24
At New Brockton High School
9:00 - Spurs vs. Hornets
10:00 - Rockets vs. Grizzlies
11:00 - Fever vs. Storm
12:00 - Sting vs. Comets

MONDAY, JAN. 26
At Elba Rec Center
5:30 - Spurs vs. Hornets
6:30 - Sting vs. Storm
At Opp Middle School
6:00 - Rockets vs. Opp
7:00 - Hawks vs. Opp Nets

TUESDAY, JAN. 27
At Elba Rec Center
5:30 - Spurs vs. Wizards
6:30 - Rockets vs. Grizzlies
THURSDAY, JAN. 29
At Elba Rec Center
5:30 - Lakers vs. Clippers
6:30 - Fever vs. Sting

Free Fishing
Day set for
June 12 at
state lakes

"Free Fishing Day" for Alabama is scheduled for Saturday, June 12, 2004, during National Fishing Week. Approved by the Alabama Legislature, the law allows an annual free day of fishing when residents and non-residents may fish without a fishing license. The specific date is set each year by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

"Free Fishing Day is offered to introduce non-anglers to the sport of fishing and to reward former anglers of the fun they've been missing," said Stan Cook, Chief of Fisheries with the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division. "It's a good time to pass on the tradition of a family fun day of fishing to Alabama's youth."

There is an exemption of the usual fishing license requirement on that day. Some lakes may still require fees and permits, and owner's permission is required to fish private ponds.

READY OR NOT...
BASEBALL &
SOFTBALL SEASON
ARE JUST AROUND
THE CORNER!

NOTICE

CITY PRIVILEGE LICENSES
ARE DUE

JANUARY 1, 2004

And Will Be Delinquent

FEBRUARY 1, 2004

There Will Be A Penalty Fee Plus Interest
Charged If Not Paid By Due Date !

Municipal Ordinances require that all persons engaged in any exhibition, trade, business, vocation, occupation, profession or calling or doing any action specified within the corporate limits/police jurisdiction of THE CITY OF ELBA are subject to a BUSINESS LICENSE.

CITY OF ELBA

WAYNE GRANTHAM

CITY CLERK

SPORTS

Late Elba rally leads Tigers past New Brockton 57-49

The Elba Tigers completed a season sweep over the New Brockton Gamecocks last Tuesday night by rallying late to down their cross-county rivals 57-49, in New Brockton.

The win upped Elba's record to 10-6, while New Brockton suffered its tenth straight loss and saw its record slip to 2-14.

New Brockton came out determined to snap its long victory drought in the opening stanza and used a slow pace to pull out to a 12-8 advantage. Elba began to find the goal in the second quarter and outscored the Gamecocks 17-13 to pull even at 25-25 at the half, but New Brockton regained the upper

hand in the third quarter and went into the fourth quarter with a surprising 41-37 lead. Elba made a move inside in the final stanza and moved Quinton Gavin down low to take advantage of the Tigers' size advantage, and the move paid dividends as Gavin scored 11 points in the stanza and sparked an Elba rally that enabled the Tigers to escape with the exciting 57-49 win.

Quinton Gavin scored 19 points to lead Elba, while Marchello Reed added 16, Rishawn Foster scored 12 points and Donnell Foster added 11 to lead the Gamecocks.

Tigers fall to Luverne 58-53

The Elba Tigers fell behind early and never recovered Friday night in a 58-53 loss to the Luverne Tigers, in Luverne.

The Tigers couldn't find their way to the goal early in the contest and fell behind by double-digits, but rallied late and cut the Luverne lead to three-points in

the fourth quarter only to see the rally fall short in the five-point road loss.

Marchello Reed scored 15 points and Quinton Gavin added 14 to lead Elba, while Luverne was led by Gary Franklin with 18 points and Fred Hawkins with 15.

Lady Tigers cruise in easy win over Luverne 54-34

The Elba Lady Tigers improved their record to 8-6 Friday night with an easy 54-34 win over the Luverne Lady Tigers, in Luverne.

YoYo Reynolds scored 16 points to lead Elba, while Tunisia Thigpen added 15 and Ayonna Proctor scored 14. Cameshia Henry led Luverne with 9 points.

SPOTLIGHT ON...
OUTDOORS

(L-R) Dudley Stinson, Cody Norris - age 7, and Jason Norris killed these wild boars on Dec. 24 while hunting near the Pea River.

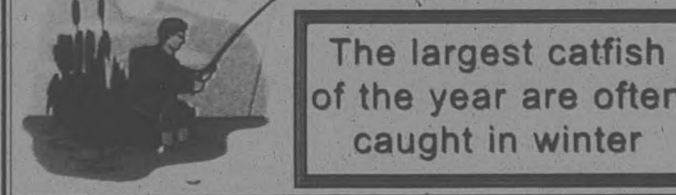
Homecoming at EOCC set for Jan. 29 with two games on tap

The first Homecoming celebration under the new name, Enterprise-Ozark Community College, will kick off January 29 in Lolly Gymnasium at 5:15 p.m. The Boll Weevil teams will face challengers Lawson State Community College. The Boll Weevil women are up for play first followed by the men at 7:30 p.m. The 2004 Alumni of the Year will be announced immediately prior to the men's game. The Homecoming Queen and her Court will be announced during halftime of the men's game. For more information about the games, teams, or tickets call Coach Jimmy Messer at 347-2623, ext. 2303 or Coach Chelita DuBois at ext. 2270. For more information on the Homecoming activities, call Gary Deas at ext. 2233.

Let's Go...

Outdoors with Ben

by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist



The largest catfish of the year are often caught in winter

The mere mention of catfishing in Alabama makes one think of a hot summer afternoon fishing from the riverbank below a dam or anchored near a deep hole in a boat. Some people just don't believe it's even worth the effort to soak bait in the wintertime fishing for catfish, but others know better.

I've even heard commercial fishermen say they preferred fishing for cat in the winter because they pretty much have the lake or river to themselves. They have good reason to think like this too, as some of the record book catfish have been caught during mid-winter. These trophies prove beyond a doubt that good catfishing can be had year round.

All species of catfish will bite during cold weather, but anglers will have better luck if they fish for channels and blues. The flat head will bite in the winter, but they are less aggressive during cold weather. Springtime is still best for flathead catfish.

Warm bluebird days seem to be best for winter catfishing. Night fishing, the most productive time in warmer weather, is usually not as good as daytime hours in the dead of winter. Windy days are often more productive when fishing shallow areas as the waves tend to stir up the bottom exposing food. The wind and chop helps to muffle the sound of a boat better than glass slick conditions, also.

Winter catfishermen often step up the pace when presenting their baits. Instead of anchoring and fishing until they bite, slowly prowl likely looking areas casting baits until you get a hit. Once you hook a catfish, it's a good idea to work the area thoroughly just like when bass fishing, but if you don't pick up more fish fairly quickly, move on.

Bass gear will suffice for small catfish, but if you tangle with a large one you'll need more muscle. A seven-foot or longer rod with a heavy fresh or light saltwater reel is better. Most catfishermen use at least 20 pound test line and many prefer 40-pound test. The three-way swivel rig is hard to beat for catfish in any season. Tie your main line to one eye of the swivel, tie 12 to 24 inches of line to one eye and a large sharp hook to the other end. Tie a section of line slightly shorter than the one the hook is attached to on the other eye and to a weight sufficient for the current conditions where you are fishing.

When it comes to bait, experimentation is the rule, but live or cut shad are hard to beat, especially when fishing below dams. Minnows and small bream were legal are also good winter baits.

If you are tired of waiting for spring to go catfishing, just dress for cold weather, grab your larger rigs and go looking for Mr. Whiskers a few months earlier this year.

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Elba Tiger Quinton Gavin (5) loses control of the basketball after being fouled. Gavin scored 11 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Tigers to a comeback win over New Brockton.

(Photo by John Wallace, Andalusia Star/News)

High School
BASKETBALL
SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

Abbeville at Elba (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Luverne at New Brockton (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Arton at Kinston (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Pleasant Home at Brantley (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Zion Chapel at Houston County (5:00) VG-VB

SATURDAY, JAN. 24

Zion Chapel at Elba (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Brantley at Hillcrest (4:30) JV-VG-VB

MONDAY, JAN. 26

Kinston at Cottonwood (6:00) VG-VB

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

Georgiana at Elba (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Goshen at New Brockton (4:30) JV-VG-VB
J.F. Shields at Brantley (4:30) JV-VG-VB
Kinston at Houston County (5:00) VG-VB



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- 1998 MALIBU LS AT-6 - leather - very clean - local trade - priced right
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of Elba recently
killed her first
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The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 33

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 29, 2004

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Toledo Molding update given to Elba Rotarians at recent luncheon

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba Rotary Club members listened with interest as Toledo Molding & Die plant manager Keith Regal gave an update on construction of the new Elba plant and showed a video of what they

could expect to see going on in the 9,200 sq foot Elba plant, once production begins.

This is the fourth plant the company has opened in the past ten years. The company was first started in 1955.

Regal said the company was proud of its reputation of pro-

ducing a high quality product and this was one of their strongest selling points for new business.

Plastic parts for automobiles will be manufactured by both injection molding and blow molding.

He also told Rotarians they stress safety in the workplace. Both the two different manufacturing processes used in molding automobile parts in the Elba plant will use high temperature and company associates are trained and constantly reminded to wear safety equipment and be cautious they go about their assigned duties.

The company will work both men and women in the manufacturing process, said Regal. In fact some of the company's facilities have a majority women working in the manufacturing process.

Regal said production workers would begin hands-on training this month, actually molding parts. He didn't give a date when they would begin making parts to be shipped to customers. By the end of 2004 the company hopes to have 80 production workers and about 20 office and management employees working in the new Elba plant.

KEITH REGAL, plant manager of the new Toledo Molding & Die plant in Elba was the guest speaker at the Elba Rotary Club recently. Shown with Regal above are Program Chairman of the day Paul Morrow, Regal and club president Doris Matthews.

Financial condition of Elba Schools attributed to community effort

by Bethany Dye

Elba City Schools continues to make financial ends meet in spite of the current state budget crisis.

In fact, superintendent Danny Weeks said although the system does not have an abundance of money in reserve, the schools' financial condition is the best it has been in years.

"Financially at this point, Elba City Schools is very stable," Weeks said. "I think a combination of the community, the staff itself here on both campuses and the cuts that we've had have really enabled us

has helped keep up the playing field. Tax revenues received from the city have increased, he said, mainly due to the alcohol tax.

Weeks said all money collected from the tax is coming directly to the schools, averaging about \$5,000 each month deposited in the general fund.

He said volunteer donations have also helped the schools, and he encourages people to still give \$5 each time they pay their electric bill.

Every year, Weeks said, students from the city and county schools call on the

has to be our main focus."

He said the grant would help Elba City Schools keep up with the constantly changing technology.

State money provided the elementary playground, and bonds allowed the elementary parking lot to be built, he said.

"All this said let's remember that in one year we can lose a lot of funding if the state starts making cuts," Weeks said. "I have to say that we're in great financial position because it might be taken as if we don't have anything to worry about. That's not true. We continually have things to worry

about. It's not having things to worry about. It's having things to worry about."

His motion received a second from commission chairman Robert Stephens and passed by a unanimous vote.

Commissioners entertained two separate requests for use of the farm center with the rental and insurance fee being waived.

Christy Norris addressed commissioners on behalf of local girl scouts and said the groups would like to use the building on April 24 for a Thinking Day Program.

With this program, Norris said the girl scout groups pick different countries to study and learn about. Then, on April 24th, they will share their newly acquired knowledge by setting up booths at the farm center.

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Commissioners also granted his request with an unanimous vote.

Commissioner Linda Westbrook spoke on behalf of the Coffee County Water Authority board as she announced a third sign-up meeting for Phase II of the water system expansion project.

This phase of the project includes residents in the northern part of the county, and Westbrook said the sign-up meeting will be held Thursday, Feb. 12, at 6:30 p.m. at the Victoria Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.

She said the water authority is just past the halfway point of reaching its needed 400-600 sign-ups with just over 200 residents signed as of Friday, Jan. 23.

This phase of the expansion project will be the last chance residents in the northern part of the county have to bring the water system to their area; therefore, Westbrook encouraged all interested residents to either attend the sign-up meeting or to contact the Coffee County Water Authority office

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New voting lines bring changes for some voters

As determined by shifts in population shown by the 2000 Federal census, Coffee County was required to re-draw some of the voting lines for its voter districts and/or precincts.

Redrawing those lines was the responsibility of the Coffee County Board of Registrars. According to Gil Kelley, chairman of the Coffee County Board of Registrars, the redistricting is nearly complete, and new voting cards for those affected by the new lines will be mailed the last of January and throughout February. Only about 10 percent of the voters will be affected by the redistricting; only those voters being moved will receive new voter ID cards.

If a voter does not receive a new card by the end of February, he can assume he is not being moved and will con-

tinue to vote at the same place he voted previously.

In assigning voter places, the Board of Registrars used new maps of Coffee County, Enterprise, Elba, and New Brockton. If a voter has a question about his new voting place, he is welcome to inspect those

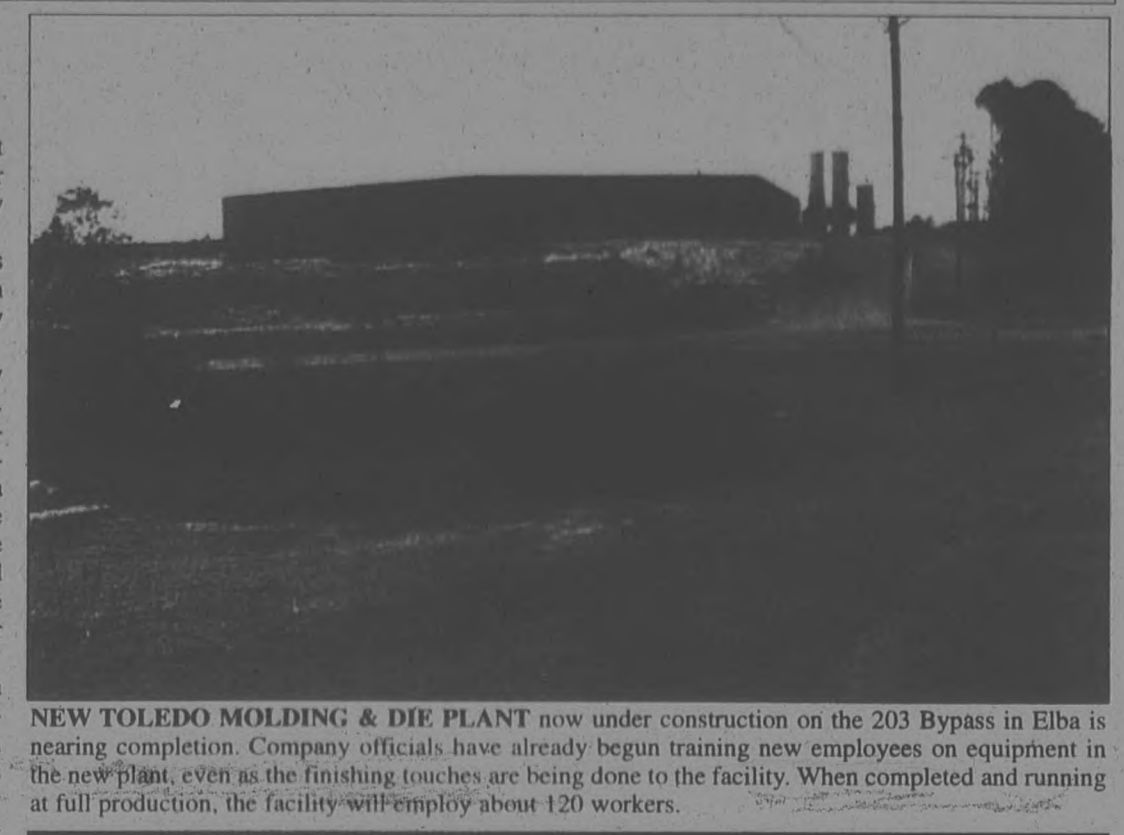
maps in the Office of the Board of Registrars located at 1065 McKinnon Street (the Farm Center) in New Brockton or call the Board of Registrars at 894-5347.

Office hours of the Board of Registrars are from 8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Area Happenings

THE 2004 VALENTINE SWEETHEARTS DINNER will be held Saturday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. at the Elba High School auditorium. Age divisions will include 9-11 months, 1-2 years, 3-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-11 years, 12-14 years and 15-18 years. The Elba Masonic Lodge #170 is sponsoring the event. For more information, call Sarah Amos at 897-8301 (after 4 p.m.), Barb Winters at 897-3095, Scott Cole at 897-5898 or Ray Kyle at 897-5851.

RELAY FOR LIFE IN COFFEE COUNTY will be Friday, May 14, at the Enterprise-Clark Community College Campus. Any company, church or organization interested in having a team for this year's event should call Jenny Tidmore at the American Cancer Society office at (334) 794-0600, ext. 3. Time is For A Cure is the theme for the event.



NEW TOLEDO MOLDING & DIE PLANT now under construction on the 203 Bypass in Elba is nearing completion. Company officials have already begun training new employees on equipment in the new plant, even as the finishing touches are being done to the facility. When completed and running at full production, the facility will employ about 120 workers.

During Coffee County Commission meeting Sale of Mount Pleasant/Battens Water Authority approved

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission held a short and routine meeting Monday, Jan. 26, as the group gave its approval for the sale of the Mount Pleasant/Battens Water Authority to the City of

Enterprise Water System.

Enterprise Mayor Kenneth Boswell addressed the commission to get its approval for the sale saying the paperwork had already been signed, but the commission must give approval to finalize the sale.

Commissioner Doug Dalrymple, who's district the water system is located, said he had some questions for Boswell and the water superintendent for Enterprise. He said his main concern was for those residents caught in the middle in assuring they too get water coverage from the city.

Dalrymple said he spoke to Boswell prior to the meeting, and the mayor assured him his questions and concerns would be addressed. Therefore, he offered a motion to allow the sale of the water authority contingent upon his concerns being met.

His motion received a second from commission chairman Robert Stephens and passed by a unanimous vote.

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